From: Gregory
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/19/01 11:44am
Subject: secure new government communications network

How to kill two birds with one stone, remove Microsoft from the loop.

Can the government remove Microsoft IIS and Windows XP/2000 from its
approved buying list?
Can Microsoft OS/Office products ever be said to be secure?
Are you locking the barn after letting out the cows?

Five year moratorium on Windows OS for desktop and servers would go a long
way to sending the message that monopolies that force users into needless
upgrades, bundled software, and insecure desktop and servers are no longer
approved.

Why add GovNet when what you need to do is secure the desktop and server and
remove Microsoft servers and desktop machines from vulnerable, sensitive and
critical areas?

OS/2 died due to FUD, not because of any inherent flaw or that Microsoft was
a superior operating system. Of course at that time there was anti-IBM
sentiment and Microsoft was the perceived to be the underdog at the time.

First Microsoft developed its own set of java tools to insure that its
version of java and not Sun1s, was deployed and lead to confusion for users.
Now it has dropped support for java.

Even as this is being resolved Microsoft had the audacity to 3pull the plug²
on MSN.com and disable features if it didn1t see a 3supported² browser. By
the way, Explorer doesn1t have as good a support as Mozilla (Open Source)
and Mozilla worked better than Explorer on MSN.com. But Microsoft was the
sole arbiter of what was or was not 3compliant² and 3supported.² You expect
Microsoft to act any different or police itself or allow itself to be
policed by any standards that it doesn1t agree to?

Force Microsoft to change by removing it from all government purchase lists
for 5 yrs unless there is absolutely no Linux or OS/2 or *nix or other
available platform from HP, IBM, Sun, Apple, etc based on ability to deliver
a solution.

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From New York Times,
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> November 17, 2001
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> To Forestall a 'Digital Pearl Harbor,' U.S. Looks to System Separate From
> Internet
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> By ALISON MITCHELL
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> WASHINGTON, Nov. 16 ó The Bush administration is considering the creation of a
> secure new government communications network separate from the Internet that
> would be less vulnerable to attack and efforts to disrupt critical federal
> activities.
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